

Ranthambhore Foundation

presents

“In the Nicobar Islands”

An Illustrated Talk by Dr. Ravi Sankaran, Scientist, Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore.

Chairman: Bikram Grewal

Wednesday, 4th September 1996 at 6.30 p.m.
India International Centre, Max Mueller Marg, New Delhi.

In the Nicobar Islands will present detailed information on the wildlife and people of this unique part of India. Dr. Sankaran will relate the history of these islands and discuss the ecological problems faced by them. Some remedial and precautionary conservation action plans will be discussed. The exposition of these fascinating islands will be accompanied by the speaker's stunning and beautiful slides.

Dr. Sankaran was awarded his Ph.D. for his studies on the breeding behaviour of the lesser florican and the Bengal florican. He has worked in diverse habitats that include the *terai* of Uttar Pradesh, the subhumid grasslands of western India, the Thar Desert, the Himalaya and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. He is currently studying the endemic avifauna of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and is involved with the conservation of the lesser florican.

Delhi Bird Club

101/4 kaushalya park
hauz khas new delhi-110 016

phone: 660607 fax: 6864614
e-mail: bikram.gmpitd@axcess.net.in

07/06/96

Dear friend,

I hope all of you managed to survive the Delhi heat without too much discomfort.

The weather has started to improve and we think it is about time that we restarted our activities.

We plan to have an informal gathering of all members and their families on the 27th of July at 7.30 pm at:

A 10/3 Vasant Vihar
New Delhi
(behind Auxilliam School on Poorvi Marg)
Tel: 671078

Otto Pfister has very kindly agreed to do a slide show of his bird pictures. He has collected many spectacular photographs on his many journeys into our forests and wilderness areas.

We would also like to discuss our future plans and activities.

We would be delighted if you join us for dinner after the slide presentation. You are welcome to bring your friends and family but it is essential that you confirm to Ravi Singh or me as to how many of you will be coming so that the right quantum of food is cooked.

We look forward to hearing from you.

With best wishes.



Bikram Grewal & Ravi Singh

Delhi Bird Club

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27 August, 1996

Dear friends,

I am enclosing an announcement from the Ranthambore Foundation regarding Ravi Sankaran's talk on the Nicobar Islands. Please try and attend, as you will see some quite rare photographs of this little studied area.

The next meeting of the DBC is again under the Banyan Tree in Okhla on Sunday the 8th of September at 6.30 am.

Those of you who came last week were lucky enough to see the Bristled Grassbird. I have records of every recorded sighting of this extremely rare bird and if you are interested in looking at them, kindly get in touch with me. Otto Pfister has photographed it and Sharad Gaur has managed to record it's call.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Best



Bikram Grewal

Delhi bird club

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12 February 1997

Dear All,

I am sorry that you have not heard from me for a long time.

The next meeting has been fixed for the 28th of March at 7.30 am at Tuglakabad.

We should meet at the parking lot at the main gate of Tuglakabad at that time.

With best wishes



Bikram Grewal

Delhi bird club

101/4 kaushalya park
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12 February 1997

Dear All,

You must have just heard from me regarding the next Delhi bird Club meeting, which infact is on the **2nd of March** and not on the 28th.

We should meet at the parking lot at the main gate of Tuglakabad at 7:30 AM.

Apalagles for this confuslan.

With best wishes

Bikram Grewal

People for Animals, Mysore

BOARD MEMBERS

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PRINTED MATTER / BOOK POST

To _____



From :
Mrs. Geetha Manja
Organizing Secretary
C/o Dr. K.S. Manja
DFRL, Mysore - 570011

"LIVE & HELP LIVE"

Workshop on Prevention of Ritual Sacrifice of Animals



Organised by :

PEOPLE FOR ANIMALS

Chairperson : Smt. Maneka Gandhi

**Mysore Chapter
Karnataka**

29-30 August 1998

Venue :
Kalamandira
Vinoba Road, Mysore.

Work Shop on
**PREVENTION OF RITUAL
SACRIFICE OF ANIMALS**

Organised by:

People For Animals, Mysore
(Chairperson: Smt. Maneka Gandhi)
29-30 August 1998 at Mysore.

INVITATION

Ritual sacrifice of animals is a cruel practice which has no place in modern India. The sacrifice mentioned in religious texts were misinterpreted as animal sacrifice. In a true sense it is symbolic and the sacrifice is one of self, sacrifice for the upliftment of needy, weak and aged. Sacrifice of ignorance and superstitions are needed.

Unfortunately in Karnataka, animal sacrifice is on the increase and in the villages of Karnataka a strong lobby has created a fear psychosis among innocent villagers that the non sacrifice of animals would invite the wrath of Goddess and could spread diseases like cholera, smallpox or natural calamities. If there is an economic loss, anxiety or fear of the unknown, people vow to offer animals to the Goddess. Interestingly this can be seen only among non vegetarian groups and not in others. This is not rational and is a psychosociological problem and can easily be solved through educating even a few people in each village.

In Mysore, few members of "People For Animals" decided to persuade the devotees

of Goddess Jwalamukhi Tripurasundari at Uttanahalli temple against this by motivating them. This temple is about 1000 years old and people from 33 villages attend the annual festival and used to sacrifice innumerable animals like sheep, goat, fowls etc., In February 1998 with the sustained efforts of "People For Animals" and police personnel the animal sacrifice in this temple was not carried out during the festival. This was a commendable success.

Under the Chairpersonship of Smt. Maneka Gandhi it is proposed to hold a two day workshop on "Prevention of Ritual Sacrifice of Animals" on 29-30 August 1998. The theme will be focused on psychosociological aspects, sociolegal aspects, health education, religious point of view and strategies for control. We invite you to actively participate in this venture, help us to chalk out future strategies and spread the example set by the temple of Uttanahalli. Participants are requested to register their names with the organisers on or before 25.7.98. Registered outstation delegates will be provided with shared accommodation and food will be served during the conference to all the participants.

Registration forms may please be sent to :

Organising Secretary
Mrs. Geetha Manja
C/o Dr. K.S. Manja
DFRL, Mysore-570 011
Ph: 473813

REGISTRATION FORM

Workshop on
**PREVENTION OF RITUAL
SACRIFICE OF ANIMALS**

29-30 August 1998
at Mysore, Karnataka

1. Name _____

2. Profession _____

3. Address _____

Telephone _____

Fax _____

Date & Time of Arrival at Mysore

Accommodation Required - Yes / No

Date

Signature



SLOTH BEAR DISTRIBUTION AND STATUS - QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY

Wildlife Institute of India is carrying out a study on the ecology of sloth bear in Panna National Park, with the support of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. As part of the study, we are conducting a questionnaire survey to assess the status and distribution of sloth bear throughout India. The information you provide will be valuable for the conservation of the species. Choose from the choices, or give your brief answers. Please make copies if you have information for more than one area. We appreciate your help and concern for the sloth bear.

Reporter: Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Name of the forest area: _____

Forest status: ☐ National Park / ☐ Wildlife Sanctuary / ☐ Reserve Forest / ☐ Private Forest / ☐ Non-protected

Forest type: ☐ Evergreen / ☐ Moist Deciduous / ☐ Dry Deciduous / ☐ Grassland / ☐ Hilly, Rocky area / ☐ Degraded scrub

1. In your area, sloth bear is : ☐ Abundant / ☐ Frequent / ☐ Occasional / ☐ Rare / ☐ Not found
2. It's distribution is : ☐ Widespread / ☐ Localised / ☐ Seasonal / ☐ Unknown
3. Approximate number of bears in your area: _____
Approximate area covered in your estimate: _____ km² / ☐ ha
4. Your abundance estimate is based on: ☐ Sightings / ☐ Signs / ☐ Forest Dept. census / ☐ Interviewing local people
5. Bear diggings (excavations for feeding on ants & termites) are: ☐ Common / ☐ Rare / ☐ Not seen
6. Bear population trend : ☐ Increasing / ☐ Declining / ☐ Stable / ☐ Unknown
7. What are the threats to bear in your area? ☐ Habitat loss / ☐ Degradation / ☐ Grazing / ☐ Felling / ☐ Fire /
☐ Minor forest products collection / ☐ Encroachment / ☐ Monoculture plantations /
☐ Trade in bear parts / ☐ Cub poaching / ☐ Conflict with people / ☐ Killing of nuisance
bears / ☐ Any Other (please specify): _____
8. Were the bears formerly present, but extinct now? ☐ Yes / ☐ No / ☐ Unknown
If yes, what reasons would you give? _____
9. Prospect for sloth bear survival in your area: ☐ Good / ☐ Fair / ☐ Poor
10. Any other comments: _____

Migratory bird sparks curiosity

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

COIMBATORE, March 1: A migratory bird from South Africa called "Parasitic Squa" related to sea gull family of birds, which lost its way on its migratory route landed up in a school, at Uthukuzhi near Tirupur, in the third week of February, succumbed to the heat and collapsed, due to the sorrow of school children.

The European bird sent on a migratory programme from Cape Town in South Africa, lost its migratory route and landed up in Uthukuli recently. The bird called as "Parasitic Squa" has a Zoological name "Stereorarius Parasiticus", was sent on migratory study programme with an aluminium ring saying "If found - Inform Cape Town of South Africa".

The bird which left European countries in search of good we-

ather to get rid of acute winter found its way to India and landed up in the premises of a school in Uthukuzhi near Tirupur. The school children and staff, who had never seen such a bird before, did not know what to do. They tried feeding it with tomato and whatever they had, but the bird, who could not stand the dry weather, breathed its last.

In the meanwhile, the school authorities informed the Conservator of Forests (Wild Life) Mr G Kumaravelu, who in turn directed his Wildlife Warden Mr Krishnakumar of the Indira Gandhi Wild Life Sanctuary in Anaimalai to get the bird.

The bird's carcass was later handed over to Mr N Krishnakumar, who, with his bird-watching friends in Bombay Natural History Society, found out that the bird is a lone migrant and a long distance migratory bird.

The Ranthambhore Foundation
and
The Delhi Bird Club

Invites you to an

illustrated talk on

THE WILDLIFE OF LADAKH

by
Otto Pfister

Chairman : Bikram Grewal
at the India International Centre
Max Mueller Marg, New Delhi
on the 13th of February at 6.30 PM